

HOT TOPIC

To Spank or Not to Spank?

Katy parents discuss why they do or do not spank when disciplining their children

YES! I do spank

Pain-Behavior Association

"As a child, I was popped for almost a year until I realized that getting in trouble was not worth it. When a mischievous thought came to mind, so did the butt-tingling sensation. That being said, never discipline when you are angry. Give children an explanation so they associate the action with discipline." - K.J.

Only When Necessary

"I popped my son when he threw a tantrum and he never did it again. If you don't, your kids will think that if they throw a tantrum they will get what they want. I have also popped him on his bottom because he was playing with the outlets and that's a no-no. I give them a warning and then if they still continue, I will spank them." - K.M.

The Punishment Must Fit the Crime

"We spank when needed. If my kids are doing something that is going to hurt them or someone else, they will get a spanking. We have tried to correct without spanking, but the punishment has to fit the crime." - J.B.

A Clear Difference

"Both my husband and I were spanked as children and feel that it taught us some much needed lessons, so we plan to spank our kids. One of our nephews is spanked and the other isn't - same parents - and we can see clear attitude differences between the kids." - L.S.

The Three Time Rule

"I warn my kids three times and I ask nicely. However, if they continue to disrespect me or ignore me, I will spank them. My kids have learned that we either work together or nobody will be happy." - A.G.

Don't Spare the Rod

"As long as the parent knows the difference between spanking for correction and abuse without crossing the fine line. The bible says, 'He who spares his rod hates his son, but he who loves him disciplines him promptly.' - Proverbs 13:24" - L.E.

NO! I do not spank

Translates to Hitting

"I don't spank because to me, that translates to hitting. When I was a new parent, I spanked my daughter a couple of times, but then she just started hitting other kids and me. When I stopped spanking, she stopped hitting. Time-outs work better for our family." - M.H.

Exercise Instead

"I made mine do push-ups. That's why they both have such great upper body strength!" - K.R.

Totally Barbaric

"Spanking is truly barbaric! How is it that you can get arrested if you slap your neighbor but you're allowed to spank a tiny child? I just don't get it." - K.W.

It Could Lead to Problems

"We don't think it's the most effective way to get the results you want. We also think it might lead to problems later in life. Our boy responds better to the threat of limited iPad or TV time." - C.H.

Children Need Time and Attention

"Parenting has changed and evolved throughout the years. Now, children need that sense of belonging and attention because, as parents, we are in 'busy mode.' If we do spank our children now, it could have long-term repercussions. I do not spank my children, but love on and spend quality time with them." - D.T.

Individualized Discipline is Best

"Instead of spanking, we try to individualize the punishment to what motivates each child at various ages. This takes more time and thought, but it's worth it. Hitting is just wrong on every level." - F.E.

Per-Parent Decision

"We feel the decision to spank is up to each set of parents. While we see differences within our own family, we would never judge them or tell them to do it one way or another." - K.E.

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